

Message Text

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ORIGIN AF-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-08 ISO-00 EB-04 SSO-00 CIAE-00 INR-05

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DRAFTED BY AF/W:RAMCGUIRE:JW

APPROVED BY AF/W:JLLOUGHRAN

FBI:KHASER (SUBS)

SCA/VO:RKENT (INFO)

L/AF:CSCHMITZ (INFO)

L/M/SCA:CBLAKESLAY (INFO)

S/CPR:BWHITEHEAD (INFO)

JUSTICE:MR. WIDENER (INFO)

EUR/CE:BFLATIN (INFO)

EUR/WE:KHSHIRLEY (INFO)

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY ACCRA

AMEMBASSY BERN

AMCONSUL ZURICH

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 235849

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: BGEN, PFOR, GH

SUBJECT: JOHN ACKAH BLAY-MIEZAH

REF: ACCRA 5926 (NOTAL)

1. BELGIAN CHARGE IN ACCRA, VANDERSTRICHELEN, TOLD AMERICAN CHARGE ON 25 OCTOBER THAT HE HAD RECENTLY PROCESSED DOCUMENTS PURPORTEDLY PREPARED AND SIGNED BY OWULAE KWESI AMAKYI II, PARAMOUNT CHIEF OF GHANA'S BEYIN WESTERN NZIMA TRADITIONAL AREA. SUBSTANCE OF DOCUMENTS WAS AUTHORIZING BANQUE DE BRUSSELS TO PAY JOHN ACKAH BLAY-MIEZAH TWENTY-FIVE
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MILLION DOLLARS PER YEAR FROM FUNDS ALLEGEDLY HELD IN

ACCOUNT OF OMAN/GHANA TRUST FUND. VANDERSTRICHELEN SAID BLAY-MIEZAH, ACCOMPANIED BY A MR. SIAW OF TATA BEER, A MRS. ANKA, MR. KROBO EDUSEI, AND MR. KWAKU BOATENG CAME TO BELGIAN EMBASSY IN GREAT HASTE TO APPLY FOR VISAS, STATING THEY HAD TO CATCH A PLANE FOR BELGIUM IN A MATTER OF MINUTES. BELGIAN CHARGE ADDED HE UNDERSTOOD TOTAL FUNDS IN OMAN/GHANA TRUST FUND AMOUNTED TO 160 MILLION DOLLARS.

2. BLAY-MIEZAH IS IN POSSESSION OF GHANA DIPLOMATIC PASS-PORT AND HAD REQUESTED GHANAIAAN FOREIGN AFFAIRS MINISTRY TO INSTRUCT GHANA EMBASSY BRUSSELS TO BE RESPONSIBLE FOR BLAY-MIEZAH'S HOTEL BILLS. MINISTRY REFUSED.

3. BEGIN FYI. 160 MILLION DOLLARS IN QUESTION IS, ACCORDING TO BLAY-MIEZAH, DEPOSITED IN ZURICH, SWITZERLAND AT SCHWEIZERISCHE KREDITANSTALT ZURICH, ALLEGEDLY PROPERTY ONE WILBER DANIEL LAYMAN, SR., OF PHILADELPHIA, PA., NOW DECEASED. BLAY-MIEZAH HAS PRESENTED GHANA GOVERNMENT WITH DOCUMENTS ALLEGEDLY LAYMAN'S WILL IN WHICH BLAY-MIEZAH NAMED AS BENEFICIARY OF DOLS 160 MILLION. OMAN/GHANA TRUST FUND ALLEGEDLY SET UP IN CAYMAN ISLANDS TO RECEIVE FUNDS FROM SWISS BANK. OUR LATEST INFORMATION IS THAT THE WILL IS A FRADULENT DOCUMENT, THEREFORE CAUSING SERIOUS DOUBT ON THE EXISTENCE OF THE 160 MILLION.

4. BLAY-MIEZAH IS KNOWN CONFIDENCE ARTIST WITH RECORD OF CONVICTIONS FOR FRAUD IN GHANA, SEVERAL OTHER WEST AFRICAN COUNTRIES, AND STATE OF PENNSYLVANIA. MORE RECENTLY, A WARRANT FOR HIS ARREST WAS ISSUED AT PHILADELPHIA ON SEPTEMBER 19 CHARGING HIM WITH VIOLATION OF SECTIONS 2314 AND 2, TITLE 18 US CODE, FOR, WITH UNLAWFUL AND FRADULENT INTENT, TRANSPORTING AND CAUSING TO BE TRANSPORTED IN INTERSTATE AND FOREIGN COMMERCE, FROM THE STATE OF PA. TO COLOGNE, GERMANY, FALSELY MADE AND FORGED SECURITIES, THAT IS, FIVE GIRARD BANK TREASURER'S CHECKS, EACH IN THE AMOUNT OF \$50,000. AN INDICTMENT WAS RETURNED BY THE FEDERAL GRAND JURY AT PHILADELPHIA ON OCTOBER 8 IN THIS CASE AND BAIL FOR BLAY-MIEZAH WAS SET AT \$150,000.

5. DESPITE BLAY-MIEZAH'S BACKGROUND, GHANAIAAN GOVERNMENT, CONFIDENTIAL

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APPARENTLY ON INSTRUCTIONS FROM CHIEF OF STATE ACHEAMPONG, IS COOPERATING WITH BLAY-MIEZAH IN HIS EFFORTS OBTAIN THE "MILLIONS". GOG APPARENTLY BELIEVES THESE FUNDS MAY HAVE BEEN TAKEN OUT OF GHANA DURING REGIME OF PRESIDENT NKRUMAH. END FYI.

6. DUE ACHEAMPONG'S PERSONAL INVOLVEMENT ON ONE HAND AND BLAY-MIEZAH'S CRIMINAL RECORD ON OTHER, DEPT. MONITORING

SITUATION CLOSELY IN HOPES AVOIDING ANY INCIDENT PREJUDICIAL TO BILATERAL RELATIONS. RECOMMEND THAT SHOULD BLAY-MIEZAH OR ANY OF HIS PARTY APPROACH EMBASSY FOR ANY ASSISTANCE OR SERVICES, THEY BE INFORMED EMBASSY MUST REQUEST INSTRUCTIONS.

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